

TRENDS



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

4/15/87 43275-2
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 9, 1987 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 4 totaled an estimated 17.0 billion ton-miles, 5.9 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 14 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 234.0 billion ton-miles, down 0.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended April 4 totaled 378,627. The week's carloadings were up 3.7 percent from the corresponding week of last year, but were 4.3 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 1.9 percent in the East and 5.7 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 15 of the 21 major commodity groups increased. Grain showed an increase of 7,067 cars (36.7 percent). However, coal decreased by 7,706 cars (7.7 percent). Thirteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended March 28 totaled 102,618 trailers and/or containers, 7.3 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 13 weeks of the year was 1,233,083 trailers and/or containers, up 3.3 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/4/87:

	Loadings in Week ended April 4, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	26,325	I	7,067	36.7	I	581	2.3
Other farm products	3,190	I	379	13.5	D	587	15.5
Metallic ores	13,943	I	201	1.5	D	3,306	19.2
Coal	92,920	D	7,706	7.7	D	12,900	12.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,411	D	184	1.4	I	172	1.3
Nonmetallic minerals	10,350	I	1,315	14.6	I	1,541	17.5
Grain mill products	10,826	I	417	4.0	D	94	0.9
Food and kindred products	11,153	I	309	2.8	I	354	3.3
Primary forest products	9,980	D	426	4.1	D	880	8.1
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,309	I	145	1.8	D	459	5.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,758	D	572	4.3	D	220	1.7
Chemicals and allied products	27,375	D	492	1.8	D	503	1.8
Petroleum products	4,794	I	261	5.8	I	100	2.1
Stone, clay and glass products	10,466	I	71	0.7	I	358	3.5
Coke	5,127	I	226	4.6	I	111	2.1
Metals and products	9,365	I	27	0.3	D	25	0.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,586	I	2,141	11.6	D	1,147	5.3
Waste and scrap materials	8,573	I	344	4.2	D	460	5.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,838	D	2,494	46.8	D	3	0.1
All other carloads	76,220	I	12,409	19.4	I	235	0.3
LCL traffic	118	I	1	0.9	D	20	14.5
Total Cars Loaded	378,627	I	13,439	3.7	D	17,152	4.3

Corresponding week of 1986

365,188

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Total Cars Loaded (14 weeks)	5,218,732	5,222,841	D 0.1

Estimated revenue ton-miles
(in billions):

13 Weeks ended March 28	217.0	218.7	D 0.8
Week ended April 4	<u>17.0</u>	<u>16.1</u>	<u>I 5.9</u>
14 Weeks cumulative	234.0	234.8	D 0.3

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